SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

VIEW OF THE ALTAR SCREEN. This elaborate partition, framing 21 paintings and three stained glass doors, separates the sanctuary from the Church proper. The magnificent Madonna of the Apse is nearly thirty feet from finger-tip to finger-tip. Dramatic lighting of this work as well as the smaller icons is one of many innovations in this fabulous structure. Completed in 1952 at a cost of two million dollars, its real value is estimated to be much higher. The interior treatment features remarkable ornamental staffwork and quantities of 24 karat gold leaf. The communion rail, partly visible here, is of bronze and white onyx.

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